

Scenic Byways

America's Byways

Indiana has actively participated in the Scenic Byways Program for several years. The program recognizes highways that are notable examples of our nation's beauty, history, culture and recreational experience. Due to their diverse character, the collection of national byways is now referred to as "America's Byways".

Indiana has two officially designated scenic byways: the Ohio River Scenic Byway and the Historic National Road.

Historic National Road



The Historic National Road is a 156-mile, nine-county corridor across central Indiana. Over most of its distance, the National Road is signed as U.S. 40, while smaller stretches are signed as state highways and local streets.

The Indiana National Road was designated a state scenic byway in

1996. It received its official designation as a National Scenic Byway in June 1998. In March 2002, the interpretive master plan for the Historic National Road was completed.

In June 2002, the Historic National Road through the states of Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois earned designation as an "All American Road". Only 20 routes in the nation can claim that honor.

Ohio River Scenic Byway

The Ohio River Scenic Byway (ORSB) in southern Indiana is a 302-mile route that roughly parallels the Ohio River. Most of the route follows state roads, but sections do travel along city streets.



The ORSB extends from Illinois to the Ohio state line and crosses 13 Indiana counties. In 1998, the Ohio and Illinois portions joined the

Indiana section to form a 967-mile National Scenic Byway.

Progress has been made toward preparation of an interpretive plan for the byway. The interpretive plan will help protect cultural, historic and natural resources while enabling travelers to sample the culture, diversity and natural beauty of the area.

The most visible evidence of progress along the ORSB is the existence of the scenic byway route signs in Ohio, Illinois and Indiana. Local sources report an increase in requests for information from prospective travelers along the route. Tourism is expected to grow even more as marketing of the byway gets underway.

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